



MILDENHALL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Annual Report

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

including the Report of the

# Chief Public Health Inspector

For the year ended 31st December, 1970

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# Mildenhall Rural District Council



## Chairman of the Council

Councillor T. W. Taylor

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## Chairman of the Public Health Committee

Councillor T. S. Baldwin

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## Medical Officer of Health (Acting)

Dr. D. A. McCracken, M.D., D.P.H.

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## Chief Public Health Inspector

L. McCovey, M.A.P.H.I.

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## Additional Public Health Inspector

J. P. Lynch, M.A.P.H.I.

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Telephone: Mildenhall 2203  
Bury St. Edmunds 2281

Council Offices,  
Mildenhall,  
Bury St. Edmunds.

To the Chairman and Councillors of  
the Rural District of Mildenhall

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1970 ending on 31st December. The estimated population of the District was 31,160 whilst the birth rate of 19.6 was in excess of a rate of 16.0 for England and Wales. The death rate for the District was at the low figure of 6.7 as compared with the rate of 11.7 for England and Wales and after making adjustments for the age and sex constitution of the population the corrected rate for the District is still only 10.5 or appreciably less than that for the country as a whole. These very satisfactory rates are a reflection on the age and sex constitution of the population in the District. Infant mortality rate of 11 again shows a low rate as compared with 18 for England and Wales.

The incidence of infectious disease as notified has been very low and must be interpreted as being rated to the numerous immunological procedures which are available to the younger population of the community.

In Mildenhall the County Council as the Local Health Authority are building a health clinic together with an ambulance station and certain accommodation for the staff.

The public health staff, as indicated in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report, have continued and expanded the sanitary supervision of all aspects throughout the district and I am obliged to Mr. McCowey for much of the statistical information on which the report is based.

I again thank most heartily the members of the Council and Mr. Fred Dannatt, the Clerk, for their continued support in maintaining a satisfactory level of health throughout the district.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID ANDREW McCACKEN

Acting Medical Officer of Health

2nd August, 1971



SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

General Statistics 1970

Registrar General's estimate of population as at 30.6.70 - 31,160

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
(As supplied by the General Register Office)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	283	295	578
Illegitimate	15	17	32
Total	298	312	610

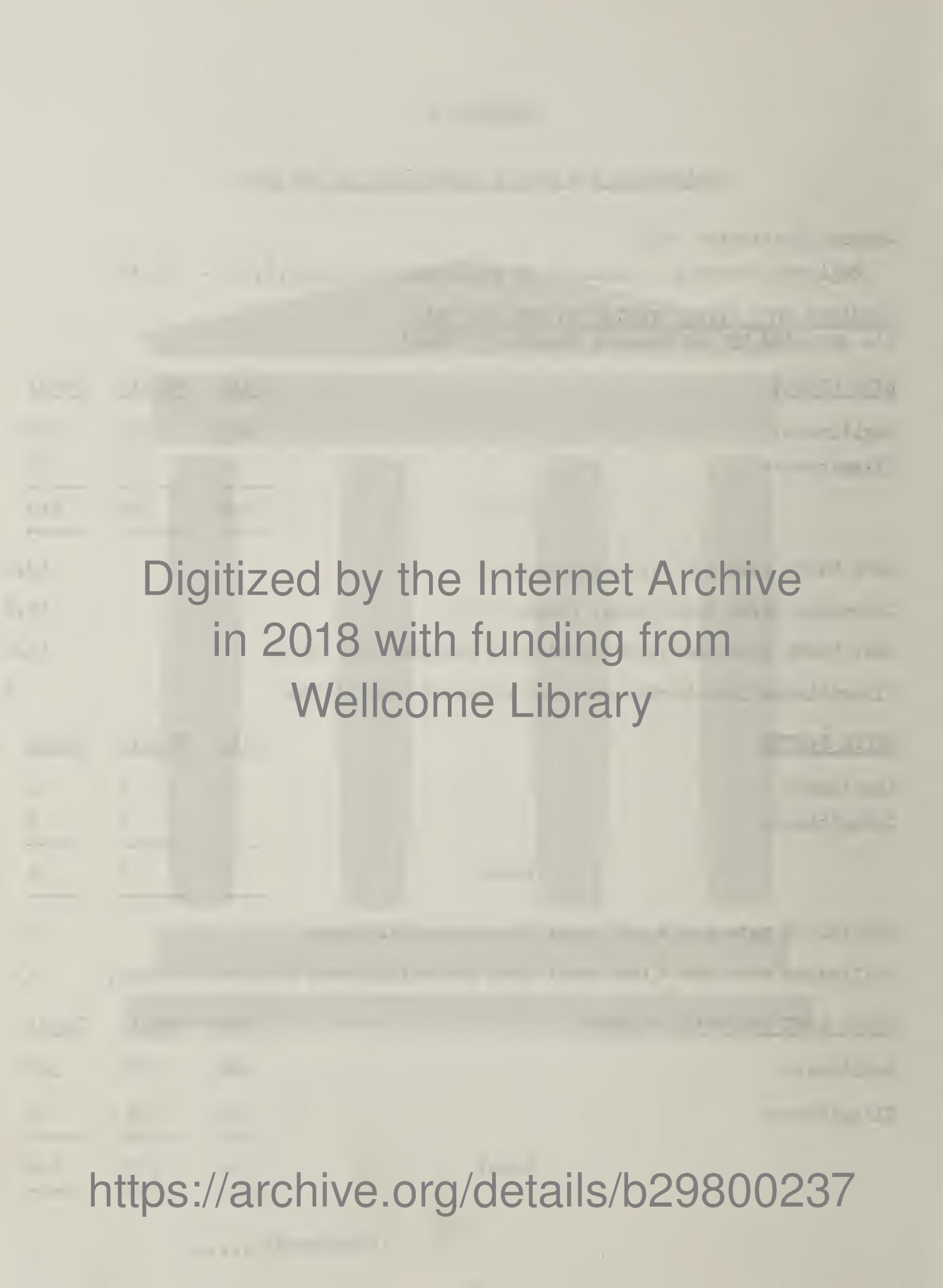
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	19.6
Corrected birth rate (Comp. factor 1.01)	19.8
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	2	2
Total	3	3	6

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	10
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths (England & Wales)	13

<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	286	296	582
Illegitimate	15	19	34
Total	301	315	616

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<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths recorded during 1970	116	94	210
Death rate per 1,000 population			6.7
Corrected death rate (Comp. factor 1.56)			10.5
Death rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			11.7
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u> - Death of infants under one year of age.	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	5	2	7

#### INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	11
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births (England & Wales)	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	12
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	--

#### NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	10
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#### EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	8
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#### PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.	18
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#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Number of deaths (including abortion)	NIL
Death rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	---

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The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths that occurred during 1970:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Streptococcal Sore Throat, Scarlet Fever	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	5	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-
Leukaemia	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	5
Other Endocrine etc. diseases	1	-
Anaemias	-	2
Other diseases of blood, etc.	-	1
Multiple Sclerosis	-	1
Other diseases of Nervous System	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	31	15
Other forms of Heart Disease	8	10
Cerebrovascular Disease	9	19
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	5
Influenza	3	1
Pneumonia	10	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal System	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1
Carried Forward	103	83



	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Brought Forward	103	83
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	2
All Other Accidents	5	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	2
 Totals	 116	 94
 Totals for 1969	 101	 89



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY SERVICES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem. Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July, 1953, have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) HOSPITALS. Of the 610 live births in 1970 to Mildenhall residents 169 took place at the Newmarket General Hospital.

Of the 210 deaths, 107 occurred outside the District (100 in hospitals).

(e) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics at the following centres in the Mildenhall District.

Beck Row	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday
Brandon	Church Institute	2nd and 4th Tuesday
Lakenheath	Peace Memorial Hall	4th Thursday
Mildenhall	Bunbury Rooms	Every Friday.

Outpatients clinics are held at Newmarket General Hospital as shown overleaf.

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NEWMARKET GENERAL HOSPITAL

CLINIC	SPECIALIST	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Anti-Coagulant	Dr. J. H. Dean	Mon Fri	2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D.
Appliances	(Technician)	Mon	10.30 am	O.P.D. Alt. Weeks
Cardiac	Dr. H. A. Fleming Dr. D. W. Evans	Mon Mon	9.45 am 9.45 am	O.P.D. 3rd Bi-mthly O.P.D. 4th Bi-mthly
Chest	Dr. C. P. Hay Dr. L. C; Lum	Thur Fri	2.00 pm 11.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. Alt. weeks
Dental (Oral)	Mr. E. W. B. Varley	Weds	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
Dermatology	Dr. S. O. B. Roberts	Tues	9.45 am	O.P.D.
E.N.T.	Mr. K. F. Wilsdon	Mon	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
Geriatric	Dr. W. Davison Dr. N. K. Coni	Wed Mon	a.m. p.m.	B4 and B.6 B.3
Gynaecological and Obstetric	Mr. J. S. Hesketh (Registrar) (Registrar) Mr. O. Lloyd	Fri Tues Tues Thur Mon	9.30 am 10.00 am 2.00 pm 10.00 am 2.00 pm	O.P.D. (Gynae) A.2 (Obs.) A.2 (Obs.) A.2 (Obs.) O.P.D. Alt. weeks.
Medical	Dr. R. Arden Jones Dr. I. E. Evans	Tues Wed Thur	2.00 pm 2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Neurology	Dr. M. Yealland	Thur	10.00 am	O.P.D.
Ophthalmic	Mr. J. Monckton (Glaucoma cases only)	Tues Fri Mon	2.00 pm 10.00 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. 3rd monthly
Orthopaedic	Mr. E.S. Jamieson Children (Physio. cases only) Mr. R. Magnall	Mon Fri Sat Tues Thur Weds Weds	10.30 am 2.00 pm 10.15 am 2.00 pm 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. Alt. weeks Plaster Room Physio. (Not 4th) O.P.D. 2nd monthly Physio. 4th monthly
Paediatrics	Dr. D. Gairdner	Weds	9.30 am	O.P.D. (1st and 3rd monthly)
Physl. Medicine	Dr. W. A. Fell	Weds	9.30 am	O.P.D.
Surgical	Mr. R.E.B. Tagart Mr. T.M. Williams	Tues Fri Thur	9.15 am 10.30 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Thoracic Surgery	Mr. B.B. Milstein Mr. C. Parish	Mon Mon	10.00 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. 2nd monthly O.P.D. 4th monthly

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

## SECTION C

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and other diseases notified during the year:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Measles	24	12
Scarlet Fever	1	-
Meningitis	2	1
Food Poisoning	-	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	27	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### New Cases and Mortality.

##### NEW CASES

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	2	1
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1

##### Ages of Cases notified during 1970

Pulmonary - 1 male, 25 years.

Mortality - There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.



TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1. Cases at commencement 1970	4	2	2	-	8
2. First notified during 1970	1	-	-	-	1
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	-	1	-	-	1
5. Cases removed from Register	-	-	-	-	-
6. Remaining at 31.12.70	5	3	2	-	10



R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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L. McCovey, M.A.P.H.I.



REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Summary of visits carried out by Public Health Inspectors during 1970.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act	19
Caravan Sites	92
Clean Air Act	22
Drainage and Sewerage	29
Factories Act	190
Food Hygiene:-	
Bakehouses	7
Butchers Shops	37
Catering Premises	60
Chemists Shops	NIL
Confectioners	12
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	2
Fried Fish Shops	17
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	20
Grocers and General Dealers	163
Licensed Premises	20
Registered Food Premises	44
School Kitchens	6
Delivery Vehicles	3
Market Stalls	12
Mobile Shops	6
Food Inspection	11
Housing Acts	493
Improvement Grants	53
Infectious Diseases	14
Knackers Yards	7
Miscellaneous Visits	146
Noise Abatement Act	6
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:-	
General Inspections	44
Revisits	NIL
Offices	NIL
Shops	42
Catering Establishments, Canteens	2
Wholesale Depots, Warehouses	NIL
Fuel Storage Depots	NIL
Outworkers	NIL
Pet Shops	6
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	133
Public Conveniences	6
Public Health Acts	324
Stables and Piggeries	NIL
Verminous Premises	5
Water Supply	272



## HOUSING

Steady progress in dealing with unfit houses continued throughout the year, the number of unfit houses condemned being slightly less than for 1969.

### Individual Unfit Houses - Housing Act, 1957

Houses Closed - Sections 16 and 17	5
Houses Demolished - Section 17	22
Number of Demolition Orders made	27

### Unfit Houses Made Fit:-

After informal action by the Local Authority	4
After formal notice made under the Public Health Acts	NIL
After formal notice under the Housing Acts	
(i) By the Local Authority	NIL
(ii) By the Owner	10

### Other Houses in which Defects were Remedied

Informal action by Local Authority	17
Formal action - Housing Acts	NIL
Formal action - Public Health Acts	NIL



NEW DWELLINGS ERECTED

A total of 452 houses were erected during the year. Of these, 216 were erected by the Council and 216 by private enterprise.

The following table shows the distribution of newly erected houses throughout the District for 1970 and the previous year.

Parish	Private		Council	
	1970	1969	1970	1969
Barton Mills	12	7	NIL	NIL
Brandon	54	54	41	15
Cavenham	2	NIL	NIL	NIL
Dalham	1	2	NIL	NIL
Elveden	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Eriswell	2	3	NIL	NIL
Freckenham	NIL	3	NIL	NIL
Gazeley	1	6	10	NIL
Herringswell	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Higham	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Icklingham	NIL	2	4	4
Kentford	18	9	NIL	NIL
Lakenheath	77	78	4	10
Mildenhall	47	63	157	104
Moulton	2	8	NIL	NIL
Santon Downham	NIL	1	NIL	NIL
Tuddenham	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Wangford	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Worlington	NIL	10	NIL	NIL



## HOUSING ACT, 1969

### House Improvements and Repairs

The Housing Act, 1969 which came into operation in August, 1969 set out a fresh and self-contained code for the grant aided conversion of houses in England and Wales and in order to speed up the rate of house improvement the Act introduced more generous assistance for people who want to improve and modernise their homes. The amount of improvement grant payable was increased from £400 to £1,000 (£1,200 for conversion) and standard grants were increased from £155 to £200. In certain circumstances a standard grant of £450 is payable.

The availability of grants is well publicised, personal visits are made to advise owners on schemes for which grants can be made and explanatory booklets are distributed. It is surprising therefore that the Council are not inundated with applications for improvement grants.

The number of grants paid in 1970 and the year previous is as follows:-

	1970	1969
Discretionary Grants	11	7
Standard Grants	17	18

### Rent of Dwellings in Good Repair and Provided with Standard Amenities

The Housing Act, 1969 introduced a new system governing the rents of privately rented dwellings which have been brought up to a satisfactory standard. The purpose, as in the case of increased grants, is to encourage improvements and repairs to older houses.

If a dwelling is improved to reach the new standard (or if it already reaches it) the tenancy can be changed from a controlled to a regulated one by applying for a Qualification Certificate.

The certificate enables a fair rent (assessed by the Rent Officer) to be charged and certifies that the following conditions are satisfied.

1. It must have all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of its occupants.
2. It must be in good repair, having regard to its age, character and locality (this does not take into account internal decorative repairs).
3. It must be fit for human habitation.



The chief responsibility of Local Authorities in relation to the rent provisions is to deal with applications for certificates relating to the state of the dwelling where it is let at a controlled tenancy.

The number of applications dealt with during the year is set out below.

1. Where the dwelling does not have all the standard amenities

Number of Applications	NIL
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2. Where the dwelling does have all the standard amenities.

Number of applications received	11
Number of applications granted	2
Number of applications refused	9

Eight applications were refused because:-

- (i) the dwelling was not in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality and disregarding internal decorative repair; and
- (ii) the dwelling was not in all other respects fit for human habitation.

One application was refused because:-

- (i) all the standard amenities were not provided;
- (ii) the dwelling was not in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality and disregarding internal decorative repair; and
- (iii) the dwelling was not in all other respects fit for human habitation.

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WATER SUPPLY

The major part of the piped water supplies throughout the District is undertaken by the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board. Details of the supplies, which are adequate and wholesome, are set out below:-

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Public Water Mains		Private Supply	
		Inside Dwelling	Standpipe	Inside Dwelling	Pump Outside
Barton Mills	284	276	4	4	-
Brandon	1703	1664	15	21 (3)	3
Cavenham	47	35	-	9 (6)	3 (3)
Dalham	82	82	-	-	-
Elveden	137	-	-	135 (135)	2 (2)
Eriswell	104	89	-	15	-
Freckenham	277	273	-	3	1
Gazeley	196	175	6	15	-
Herringswell	68	61	1	6	-
Higham	76	-	-	76 (76)	-
Icklingham	149	131	4	14	-
Kentford	107	101	6	-	-
Lakenheath	915	894	12	6	3
Mildenhall	2671	2645	10	7	9
Moulton	341	341	-	-	-
Santon Downham	91	-	-	91	-
Tuddenham	123	111	3	9	-
Wangford	11	-	-	11	-
Worlington	162	154	3	5	-
	7544	7032	64	427 (220)	21

The figures in brackets indicate the number of dwellings having a chlorinated private water supply.

Of the 427 dwellings having a private water supply inside, 3 of these obtain their water by means of a hand pump.



## EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

### Bacteriological Examination

Regular sampling of drinking water continued throughout 1970 but with emphasis on private untreated supplies.

The number of samples taken and the results obtained are set out below:-

No. Samples	Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satisfactory	Class 3 Suspicious	Class 4 Unsatisfactory
68	41	6	2	19

Samples of untreated water from 5 private supplies found to be unsatisfactory were promptly investigated and immediate precautionary measures adopted. In two cases arrangements have been made to connect to the public supply, in two other cases the source of contamination has been rectified and in the fifth case further action is pending. Samples taken from public supplies all proved excellent. Monthly samples from all bore-holes providing water for public supplies continues to be undertaken, prior to chlorination, by the Water Board.

### Chemical Examination (Analysis)

Every year samples of water are taken by the Water Board from each source within the Rural District and submitted for chemical analysis.

The analyst states that the water in each sample conforms to the highest organic purity and the results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes, from the aspect of the chemical and mineral analysis.

The results of samples taken on the 18th of May, 1970 are shown overleaf:-



RESULTS OF ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLIES 1970

Test (Parts per million)	Brandon Boreholes		Briswell Boreholes		Moulton	Tuddenham
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 1	No. 2		
Appearance	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
pH Values	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.4
Chloride	12	14	14	14	27	18
Total Hardness	200	180	180	185	350	245
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.8	4.4	4.8	5.8	8.6	4.6
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Metals:-						
Iron	0.11	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04
Zinc	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.15	0.06
Copper	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Manganese	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride	0.12	0.14	0.12	0.14	0.12	0.17
Turbidity	Less than: 1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	Less than: 1
Odour	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Free Carbon Dioxide	15	10	9	13	30	16
Oxygen Absorbed	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.20	0.10
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Silica	11	10	14	12	14	12
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	250	235	235	235	450	350



## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The Council continued their programme of providing modern sewerage and sewage disposal systems and the following progress was made during the year.

### Freckenham Village Sewerage Scheme.

Construction work on this scheme commenced in July, 1969. Satisfactory progress was reported throughout the contract and the work was completed in May, 1970.

### Mildenhall Sewage Works Extension.

Work on this scheme should have been completed by August, 1970. Although progress was slower than anticipated, workmanship was reported as good.

An extension of the contract period was granted but the works were still not completed by the end of the year.

### Red Lodge and Herringswell Sewerage Scheme

Tenders received early in the year were 10% in excess of the estimated cost. By June, 1970 the lowest tender was approved by the Ministry and construction work on the schemes commenced in August, 1970 and has progressed satisfactorily.

### Cavenham Sewerage Scheme

This scheme received Ministry approval and work commenced in October, 1970. The scheme is being carried out jointly with the Red Lodge and Herringswell Scheme.

### Brandon Extension to Sewage Works and Sewers.

The scheme for the extension to the sewerage system was approved by the Ministry in November, 1970 and plans were made for the work to commence in February, 1971. Tenders for the extension of the sewage treatment works will be invited at about the same time.

### Kentford and Kennett Sewerage Scheme.

In co-operation with Newmarket Rural District Council a scheme to sewer these areas was approved in principle.

Application was made for loan consent and discussions are taking place concerning the best method of seweraging the villages.



## Future Sewerage Schemes

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government asked for a revised programme of sewerage schemes to be submitted to enable financial provision for grants to be made.

The following programme was agreed by the Council and submitted to the Ministry.

Elveden	1972/73
Eriswell	1973/74
Higham	1974/75
Santon Downham	1975/76

The village of Wangford and the Fen Areas are not included because they are small and scattered.

### NOTE:

The schemes at Freckenham, Red Lodge, Herringswell and Cavenham were designed by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor's Department. The remainder were designed by the Council's Consulting Engineers.

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## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Collection of Refuse

The Council continued with their programme of improving the refuse collecting service in stages and during the year four additional areas were provided with a weekly kerbside collection.

The Districts now enjoying the weekly service are:-

Brandon	
Lakenheath	
Mildenhall	(Beck Row Village)
Mildenhall	(Town)
Barton Mills	
Freckenham	(Red Lodge)
Worlington	

The following villages were provided with a fortnightly kerbside collection during the year but approval was given to start a weekly service in 1971:-

Kentford	
Moulton	
Mildenhall	(Holywell Row)

A fortnightly collection of refuse was provided in the following areas:-

Cavenham	Higham
Dalham	Icklingham
Elveden	Lakenheath
Eriswell	Mildenhall (West Row)
Freckenham (Village)	Santon Downham
Gazeley	Tuddenham
Herringswell	Langford

It should be noted, that the areas receiving a weekly collection service contain almost 80% of the population (excludes U.S.A.F. personnel living on the Base).

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The introduction of a pilot scheme of refuse collection using the paper sack system, on the first stage of Brandon's overspill estate proved to be a success and the system is therefore being extended to cover the whole of this estate. Plans to introduce the system to the Anglo-American Housing Scheme at Eriswell were not fulfilled owing to a delay in completion of the housing development, but it is anticipated that this estate will have the benefit of this advanced and more hygienic system of refuse collection in 1971.

### Refuse Disposal

During the year, the long-awaited Report of the Technical Committee on the Disposal of Toxic Solid Wastes was published and their findings and recommendations in respect of Toxic Liquid Wastes coincide with the action the Council have taken in connection with deposits of similar wastes at Kentford Pit.

A major improvement in the disposal of domestic refuse will be brought about in the Southern part of the District in 1971 when controlled tipping of refuse is put into practice at the proposed new Council tip at Chalk Hill, Barton Mills. This system of tipping is in accordance with some of the recommendations of the Working Party on Refuse Disposal whose report was published whilst this one was being compiled.

Crude tipping and burning of domestic refuse continues to be the practice at Lakenheath and one looks forward to the time when all tips are operated along the lines recommended by the Report of the Working Party.

All tips throughout the District are kept under surveillance to keep rat infestations under control and regular spraying with insecticide is carried out at least twice weekly to prevent flies breeding.

The effect of the provision of sewerage schemes and modern sewage treatment works in the villages is reflected in the number of septic tanks emptied during the year, the figure for 1970 being 900 less than for 1969.

Number of tanks emptied		Total number of loads	
1969	1970	1969	1970
2,985	2,035	3,422	2,788



INSPECTION OF FOOD AND ADMINISTRATION OF FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Summary of Food Premises

Bakehouses	3
Butchers	13
Catering Premises	39
Chemists Shops	2
Confectioners	16
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	1
Fried Fish Shops	6
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	4
Grocers and General Dealers	49
Licensed Premises	65
Mobile Food Shops	4
Registered Food Premises	62
School Kitchens	8
Total	275

Registered Food Premises

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	57
Storage of Ice Cream intended for sale	--
Preparation of Sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	5
Total	62



## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Three hundred and ninety-one visits were made to food premises during the year for the purposes of inspection and advice. Resulting from the inspections 47 letters were sent out drawing attention to several infringements in most cases.

The analysis of infringements set out below shows regulations 6 and 23, dealing with cleanliness of equipment and the cleanliness and repair of food rooms respectively, to be the most commonly contravened. This follows the pattern of the results of initial inspections in 1969 and as visits to food premises during 1971 will be for the purpose of reinspection following letters from the Department it is hoped that the number of infringements found will be quite low. Those premises re-visited during the year for advisory purposes showed a marked improvement in the standard of cleanliness.

### Analysis of contraventions :-

Reg. No.	Subject	Number of Contraventions
6	Cleanliness of equipment	50
8	Food to be protected from risk of contamination	3
9	Personal cleanliness	1
14	Sanitary conveniences	46
16	Wash-hand basins to be provided	33
17	First-aid materials to be provided	20
18	Accommodation for clothing	1
19	Facilities for washing food and equipment	8
20	Lighting of food rooms	6
21	Ventilation of food rooms	2
23	Cleanliness and repair, etc., of food rooms	143
24	Accumulation of refuse	4
25	Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	1



As a consequence of the inspections and through the vetting of all plans connected with food premises and factories the Department has on a number of occasions been requested to advise the proprietors of catering premises, retail food shops and licensed premises on the internal re-organisation of food rooms and constructional finishes so that the design and structure lend themselves to ease of cleansing. These requests indicate an encouraging interest in hygiene being displayed by the proprietors.

#### Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

Twenty one visits were made during the year, which included the weekly markets at Brandon and Mildenhall. Ten letters were sent to the proprietors of market stalls and to the owner of a mobile food shop operating in the District.

As in the case of food premises, the most common infringement was the failure of owners to keep the stall or mobile shop clean and in such condition as to enable it to be easily cleaned.

#### Analysis of contraventions:-

Reg. No.	Subject	Number of Contraventions
4	Food business not to be carried on from insanitary stalls or delivery vehicles	1
5	Condition of land, vehicles, etc., used for sale or delivery of food	13
6	Cleanliness of equipment, etc.	4
7	Food to be protected from risk of contamination	1
8	Personal cleanliness	1
13	General requirements relating to stalls and delivery vehicles	1
16	Wash-hand basin to be provided	5
17	First aid materials to be provided	5
19	Lighting	1
21	Covering of stalls	3
22	Receptacles for waste	1



## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

There were 128 premises registered with the authority under the Act at the end of 1970, this being an increase of 6 on the 1969 total.

The types of premises and the numbers of persons employed are shown in the table below:-

Type of Premises	No. on Register	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	39	148
Retail Shops	75	258
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	2
Catering Establishments open to Public	12	51
Fuel Storage Depots	1	4
Total	128	463
Males		260
Females		263

### ACCIDENTS

Two accidents were reported during the year. Both were minor in nature and did not require statutory action.

### EXEMPTIONS

There are no premises within the area for which exemption from any requirements of the Act have been granted.



## ADMINISTRATION

Forty four inspections were made during the year. As a result, thirty letters were sent out drawing the attention of employers to a total of sixty four contraventions. The table below sets out the various infringements observed and it will be noted that failure to provide an abstract of the Act for the information of employees and the lack of satisfactory washing facilities, thermometers and inadequate lighting are predominant.

Section	Subject	Number of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness	4
5	Overcrowding	2
6	Temperature	10
8	Lighting	9
9	Sanitary Conveniences	6
10	Washing Facilities	10
13	Sitting Facilities	1
16	Floors, Passages and Stairs	4
24	First Aid Provisions	7
50	Information for Employees	11

## PROSECUTIONS

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings for enforcement of the provisions of the Act during 1970.



FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The systematic inspection of all factories within the District, commenced in 1969, was continued and finalised during 1970.

Details relating to visits and the action taken are shown below.

Prescribed Particulars On The Administration Of The Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health:-

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (no power) in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	8	8	2	NIL
Factories (with power) not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	107	100	32	NIL
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	8	2	1	NIL
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>NIL</b>



2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of prosecutions instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences Section 7					
(a) insufficient	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) unsuitable or defective	33	-	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences against the Act	3	-	NIL	NIL	NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Section 133	Lamp Shades	Wearing Apparel	Eye Shades	Bags
(i) Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (i) (c)	9	30	18	5
(ii) Number of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	0	0	0	0
(iii) Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	0	0	0	0
Section 134				
(i) Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	0	0	0	0
(ii) Notices served	0	0	0	0
(iii) Prosecutions	0	0	0	0



## RODENT CONTROL

### COMPLAINTS

One hundred and sixty nine complaints were received during the year concerning infestations of rats and/or mice.

It can be seen that, although the incidence of rat complaints rose sharply in 1969, the figures for 1970 indicate that the situation has returned to normal.

Year	Rats	Mice
1970	155	14
1969	229	24
1968	157	45
1967	164	14

### SERVICE

The Council operates its own rodent control service, employing one full time operator. The charges for treatment of business and agricultural premises remained as they were for 1969, that of 10s. Od. per hour and 12s. 6d. per hour respectively.

The table below shows the work carried out by the rodent operator and the public health inspectors during the year.

		Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in District		8776	708
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification		606	22
Number infested by:	Rats	205	18
	Mice	79	5
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		607	57
Number infested by:	Rats	151	39
	Mice	29	5



## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Seven informal notices were served during the year and at present six have been complied with. Steps are being taken to bring about early compliance with the remaining notice.

### Annual Sewer Examinations

During 1970 the pattern of annual examination of sewers for rodent activity was continued and details of the survey are set out below.

	<u>No. of manholes in system</u>	<u>No. of manholes baited</u>	<u>No. of positive results</u>
Icklingham	41	13	NIL
Mildenhall	250	36	NIL
Moulton	73	31	NIL
Tuddenham	30	16	NIL



## CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1963

The following summary shows the position during the period covered by this report.

New site licences granted	5
Site licences renewed	27
Expired site licences not renewed	9
Total number of licenced sites	51
Total number of caravans permitted to occupy licenced sites	442

Twenty Nine of the fifty-one licensed sites are for single caravans.

Ten informal notices were served, four in respect of contraventions of site licence conditions and six concerning the unauthorised use of land as a caravan site. In all cases of unauthorised use the notices were complied with and as the infringements connected with site licence conditions are of a structural nature a longer period has been allowed to give site owners time to carry out the necessary works.

## Caravan Sites Act, 1968

### Gypsy Encampments

This part of the Act seeks to spread fairly the burden of providing caravan sites for gypsies which are needed throughout England and Wales. It is thought that about 200 such sites will ultimately be required. As a corollary, in areas where sufficient sites have been provided (or cannot reasonably be provided), the Act gives local authorities more effective powers to deal with unauthorised camping by gypsies.

The major duty to provide sites is put on the County Councils, which are required to provide sites for all gypsies residing in or resorting to their area; the district councils have the duty to provide services and facilities and to manage the sites.

Unauthorised gypsy encampments occurred from time to time in the Beck Row and Red Lodge areas throughout the summer months mainly but they did not cause any major public health problems and, invariably, camps did not last longer than two to three weeks.



## GENERAL MATTERS OF INSPECTION

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two establishments were licenced during the year, one for the boarding of 4 dogs and one for the boarding of 50 dogs and 15 cats. Both premises were run in accordance with licence conditions and no action was necessary.

One other establishment within the area was found to contravene the Act on several counts and an application to renew the licence was therefore refused by the Council.

### CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1957 AND 1968

During the year one notification was received of a proposal to install a furnace to which Section 3(1) of the Act of 1956 applies together with an application for approval of the furnace chimney height under the Clean Air Act, 1968.

Of the seven complaints received regarding alleged smoke nuisances only one required the service of an informal notice. The remainder were abated as the result of personal interviews with the parties involved.

### DISINFESTATION

In addition to the rodent control service the following infestations were dealt with by Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Ants	2	Mice	1
Fleas	6	Bats	2
Flies	3	Bees	2
Wasps	45	Other Insects	2

### FOOD POISONING

There were four outbreaks of suspected food poisoning reported during the year. Although faecal specimens were examined in each case the causative organisms were not isolated.

In December, immediately prior to the close down of schools for the Christmas break, a suspected food poisoning outbreak occurred at Beck Row County Primary School, sixty six children in all being affected. Despite a thorough investigation and the submission to the Public Health Laboratories of a full report, faecal samples from early patients and samples of the suspected food the cause of the outbreak was not ascertained.



## KNACKERS YARDS

As was mentioned in the report for 1969 the only Knackers Yard in the District has been redesigned and a new building is in the course of construction. Advice on the design and fittings has been given by the department and it is envisaged that the result of close co-operation will be a modern, well equipped Knackers Yard.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Six complaints of noise were received during the year. Three arose from barking dogs, one from building operations and two from local business establishments. In dealing with the complaints on an informal basis, the co-operation of all concerned was achieved.

In one case equipment was fitted to plant to suppress noise and structural works were being carried out at the end of the year to baffle the effects of noise from other sources within the premises.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One application for a licence to keep a pet shop was granted during the year. The applicant sells small pets such as budgerigars, tame mice, hamsters and rabbits and the licence was granted with appropriate conditions attached.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1936 AND 1961

During the year thirty six informal notices were served following complaints received by the department. The subjects of the notices covered nuisances arising from smoke, noise, smells, the emission of effluvia from a paint spraying firm and disrepair in dwelling houses, this latter item being the main cause for complaint. Twenty eight of the notices were complied with and the remainder are being kept under surveillance until compliance is secured.

It was found necessary to serve one formal notice in the case of a nuisance arising from the deposit of liquid noxious waste at a disused sand and gravel pit in the district and this was subsequently complied with.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

There are no slaughterhouses within the Rural District.



## SCHOOL SWIMMING POOLS

There are six outdoor swimming pools in the District located at schools in Brandon, Eriswell, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Moulton and Tuddenham.

Regular testing of the water was continued during the year by the Weights and Measures Department of the West Suffolk County Council to ensure that adequate standards of purity are maintained and a policy of poolside testing followed by instruction on dosing was carried out.

In addition advice and information on the maintenance of pool hygiene standards was given by the County Health Education Officer.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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